Chapter 6
Conclusion

Brownfields redevelopment contributes to the revitalization of communities across the U.S. Reuse of these abandoned, contaminated sites spurs economic growth, builds community pride, protects public health, and helps maintain our nation's "greenfields," often at a relatively low cost. This document in conjunction with the Generic Guide provide an overview of the technical methods that can be used to achieve successful site assessment and cleanup, which are two key components in the brownfields redevelopment process.

This landfill site profile provides the technical information necessary to conduct a successful brownfields redevelopment. However, each site is unique and the specific cleanup activities will be dictated by the site assessment, future use of the site, budget and time frame.

To avoid problems throughout the process it is important that stakeholders are involved from the beginning. Consultation with state and local environmental officials and community leaders, as well as careful planning early in the project, will allow planners to develop the most appropriate site assessment and cleanup approaches. Planners should also determine early on if they are likely to require the assistance of environmental engineers. A site assessment strategy should be agreeable to all stakeholders and should address:

- The type and extent of any contamination present at the site;
- The types of data needed to adequately assess the site;
- Appropriate sampling and analytical methods for characterizing contamination; and
- An acceptable level of data uncertainty .

When used appropriately, the process described in this document will help to ensure that a good strategy is developed and implemented effectively.

Once the site has been assessed and stakeholders agree that cleanup is needed, planners will need to consider the cleanup options. Many different types of cleanup technologies are available. The guidance provided in this document on selecting appropriate methods directs planners to base cleanup initiatives on site- and project-specific conditions. The type and extent of cleanup will depend in large part on the type and level of contamination present, reuse goals, and the budget available. Certain cleanup technologies are used onsite, while others require offsite treatment. Also, in certain circumstances, containment of contamination onsite and the use of institutional controls may be important components of the cleanup effort. Finally, planners will need to include budgetary provisions and plans for post-cleanup and post-construction care if it is required at the brownfields site. By developing a technically sound site assessment and cleanup approach that is based on site-specific conditions and addresses the concerns of all project stakeholders, planners can achieve brownfield redevelopment and reuse goals effectively and safely.